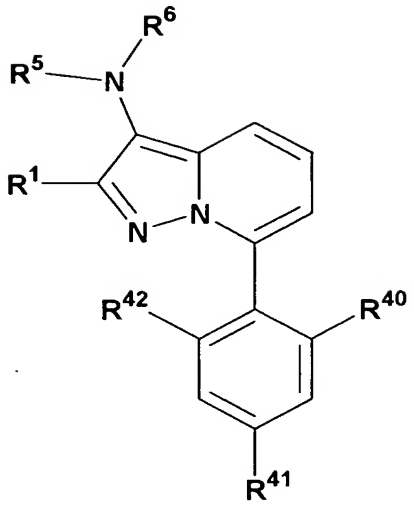
Claims

1. A compound represented by the formula:



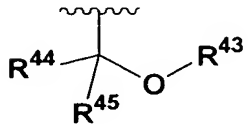
(I)

[wherein R^1 is a group represented by the formula $-G^{1z}-R^{1z}$ (wherein G^{1z} is a single bond, oxygen or sulfur, and R^{1z} is methyl or ethyl) or methoxymethyl;
R^5 and R^6 are each independently hydrogen, *t*-butoxycarbonyl or a group represented by the formula $-X^{6b}-X^{7b}$ (wherein X^{6b} is methylene and X^{7b} is C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, tetrahydropyran-yl or tetrahydrofuran-yl);
and two of R^{40}, R^{41} and R^{42} are C_{1-6} alkoxy while the remaining one is a group represented by the formula $-V^{1a}-V^{2a}$ (wherein V^{1a} is a single bond, -CO-, C_{1-6} alkylene, C_{2-6} alkenylene or C_{2-6} alkynylene, and V^{2a} is hydrogen, hydroxyl, C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from Substituent Group B below, C_{1-6} alkoxy optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from Substituent Group B below, a

group represented by $-N(R^{3c})R^{3d}$ (wherein R^{3c} and R^{3d} are each independently hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from Substituent Group B below), methanesulfonyloxy, p-toluenesulfonyloxy, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidyl, morpholinyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, tetrahydropyran-yl or tetrahydrofuran-yl),
wherein Substituent Group B is the group consisting of fluorine atom, chlorine atom, bromine atom, cyano, C_{1-6} alkoxy, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidyl, morpholinyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, tetrahydropyran-yl and tetrahydrofuran-yl],
a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing.

2. A compound according to claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing, wherein R^1 is methyl, ethyl, methoxy, methylthio or methoxymethyl.

3. A compound according to claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing, wherein R^{40} and R^{42} are each independently C_{1-6} alkoxy, and R^{41} is a group represented by the formula:

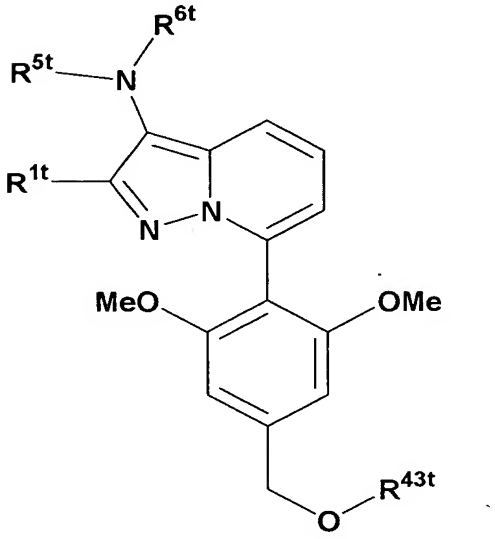


(wherein R^{44} and R^{45} are each independently hydrogen, methyl or ethyl; and R^{43} is C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from

Substituent Group B below,

wherein Substituent Group B is the group consisting of fluorine atom, chlorine atom, bromine atom, cyano, C_{1-6} alkoxy, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidyl, morpholinyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, tetrahydropyran-yl and tetrahydrofuran-yl).

4. A compound represented by the formula:



[wherein R^{5t} and R^{6t} are each independently cyclopropylmethyl, (4-tetrahydropyranyl)methyl, (3-tetrahydrofuranyl)methyl or (2-tetrahydrofuranyl)methyl;

R^{1t} is methoxy, methylthio, methyl, ethyl or methoxymethyl; and

R^{43t} is C_{1-6} alkyl],

a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing.

5. A compound according to claim 4, a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing, wherein R^{43t} is methyl.

6. A compound according to claim 4, a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing, wherein R^{1t} is methoxy, methylthio or ethyl.

7. A compound according to claim 4, a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing, wherein R^{5t} is cyclopropylmethyl or (4-tetrahydropyranyl)methyl.

8. A compound according to claim 4, a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing, wherein R^{5t} is (4-tetrahydropyranyl)methyl.

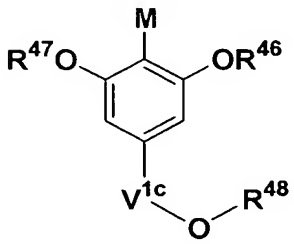
9. A compound according to claim 4, a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing, wherein R^{5t} is (4-tetrahydropyranyl)methyl, and R^{6t} is cyclopropylmethyl.

10. A compound according to claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing, wherein the compound is *N*-cyclopropylmethyl-*N*-7-[2,6-dimethoxy-4-(methoxymethyl)phenyl]-2-ethylpyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl-*N*-tetrahydro-2*H*-4-pyranylmethylamine, *N*-cyclopropylmethyl-*N*-7-[4-(ethoxymethyl)-2,6-dimethoxyphenyl]-2-ethylpyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl-*N*-tetrahydro-2*H*-4-pyranylmethylamine or *N*-cyclopropylmethyl-*N*-[7-[2,6-dimethoxy-4-(methoxymethyl)phenyl]-2-(methylsulfanyl)pyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl]-*N*-tetrahydro-2*H*-4-pyranylmethylamine.

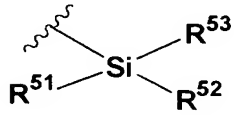
11. A compound according to claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing, wherein the compound is *N*-cyclopropylmethyl-*N*-7-[2,6-dimethoxy-4-

(methoxymethyl)phenyl]-2-ethylpyrazolo[1,5-*a*]pyridin-3-yl-*N*-tetrahydro-2*H*-4-pyranylmethylamine.

12. A compound (except (i) 4-(hydroxymethyl)-2,6-dimethoxyphenylboric acid and (ii) 4-(((t-butyldiphenylsilyl)oxy)methyl)-2,6-dimethoxyphenylboric acid), represented by the formula:



[wherein R^{48} is hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from Substituent Group B below, benzyl optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents selected from Substituent Group B below, 2-tetrahydropyranyl or a group represented by the formula:

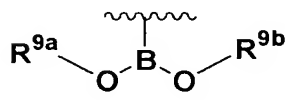


(wherein R^{51}, R^{52} and R^{53} are each independently C_{1-6} alkyl or phenyl);

R^{46} and R^{47} are each independently C_{1-6} alkyl;

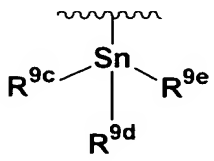
V^{1c} is C_{1-6} alkylene;

M is a group represented by the formula:



(wherein R^{9a} and R^{9b} are each independently hydrogen or

C_{1-6} alkyl, where R^{9a} and R^{9b} may bond together to form 1,2-ethylene, 1,3-propylene or 2,3-dimethyl-butan-2,3-diyl), or a group represented by the formula:



(wherein R^{9c}, R^{9d} and R^{9e} are each independently C_{1-6} alkyl); and

Substituent Group B is the group consisting of fluorine atom, chlorine atom, bromine atom, cyano, C_{1-6} alkoxy, pyrrolidinyl, piperazinyl, piperidyl, morpholinyl, C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, tetrahydropyranyl and tetrahydrofuranyl], a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing.

13. A compound according to claim 12, a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing, wherein R^{46} and R^{47} are methyl, and V^{1c} is methylene.

14. A compound according to claim 12, a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing, wherein R^{46} and R^{47} are methyl, V^{1c} is methylene, and R^{48} is methyl.

15. A corticotropin-releasing factor (CRF) receptor antagonist comprising a compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof.

16. A corticotropin-releasing factor (CRF) 1 receptor antagonist comprising a compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof.

17. A therapeutic or prophylactic agent for a

disease associated with corticotropin-releasing factor (CRF), comprising a compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof.

18. A therapeutic or prophylactic agent for depression, a depressive symptom, mania, anxiety, general anxiety disorder, panic disorder, phobia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, posttraumatic stress disorder, Tourette's syndrome, autism, affective disorder, dysthymia, bipolar disorder, cyclothymic personality or schizophrenia, comprising a compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof.

19. A therapeutic or prophylactic agent for peptic ulcer, irritable bowel syndrome, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, diarrhea, constipation, postoperative ileus, stress-associated gastrointestinal disorder or nervous vomiting, comprising a compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof.

20. A therapeutic or prophylactic method for a disease associated with corticotropin releasing factor (CRF), comprising administration of a compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof.

21. A therapeutic or prophylactic method for depression, a depressive symptom, mania, anxiety, general anxiety disorder, panic disorder, phobia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, posttraumatic stress disorder, Tourette's syndrome, autism, affective

disorder, dysthymia, bipolar disorder, cyclothymic personality or schizophrenia, comprising administration of a compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof.

22. A therapeutic or prophylactic method for peptic ulcer, irritable bowel syndrome, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, diarrhea, constipation, postoperative ileus, stress-associated gastrointestinal disorder or nervous vomiting, comprising administration of a compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof.

23. Use of a compound according to claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing for the manufacture of a medicament.

24. Use of a compound according to claim 1, a salt thereof or a hydrate of the foregoing for the manufacture of a therapeutic agent or a prophylactic agent for a disease for which inhibition of corticotropin releasing factor (CRF) receptor is effective.